

to also considering plans for an office building of about the same cost.

The Odd Fellows Lodge at this place has recently purchased a well located business lot and will no doubt in the near future build a nice temple on it. Besides these public buildings there will be several residences built during the summer.

The Virginia and Kentucky Railroad, which is completed and in operation between Norton and Wise, is proposing to extend this line from Wise. Some few weeks ago the representatives of this road made the citizens of this town a proposition, if they would extend this from Wise to Clintwood, our citizens agreed to take at least \$20,000 of the stock to be issued and to furnish depot grounds, and it is expected that this line will be extended to Clintwood in the near future. The South and Western Railroad—George L. Carter's road, will pass within two miles of the town when completed. Clintwood is in the finest coal and timber belt in Virginia, and as soon as touched by railroad will be an important mining and timber centre.

TAZEWELL COUNTY.

The Town of Tazewell Makes Strides Forward and Upward.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
TAZEWELL, VA., Dec. 31.—From a business point of view, the year just closed has been the best in the history of this town and county. The business men have had a trade larger and more satisfactory every way than last year. A number of resident and business houses have been completed, with others under construction and contract. There has been a little scarcity of ready money due to the fact that money lying idle herebefore has been put in circulation and hence loans have been a little harder to get, and the banks report a slight falling off in deposits.

During the year the town has built two granite walks, from 4 to 6 feet wide on all of the principal streets of the town at an outlay of \$10,000, for which bonds of the town were issued. During the year the Tazewell Electric Light and Power Company was organized, with a capital of \$10,000. This company purchased the business of the Tazewell Electric Light Company, and the Tazewell Street Railway Company, and have just completed and put into operation the electric car line, displacing the horse cars which have been running here for ten years or more. The electric cars were installed on the day before Christmas and are now running successfully.

The expenditures of more than \$50,000 in public improvements in the town in addition to a handsome sum invested in a new church and a number of resident buildings, has given the people good times this year.

The Bank of Clinch Valley, purchased and reproduced a fine new building during the year at a cost of about \$12,000. The next year promises to be of more interest as far as the development of the county is concerned than any year previous. The completion of the Dry Fork Railroad, which will be a gateway to the vast amount of coal in the northern part of the county, is in sight. The road is being built by the Norfolk & Western Railway Company. The road branches off from the main line near Lacey, W. Va., and is being built in the direction of this town, the terminus being only about ten miles off. The extension of the electric line from this town to connect with the Dry Fork Railroad has been suggested by the Clinch Valley News, and the building of a trolley line into Burke's Garden is being urged by the same paper. The last named schemes have been favorably commented on by the business men of the county, and will, no doubt, materialize in the near future.

The town of Ruffalo, twenty miles west of here, has enjoyed large prosperity during the past year. A large company, of which Gen. R. A. Ayers, of Big Stone Gap, is president, purchased during the year large tracts of coal land near the town and a great deal of property in the town. A railroad has been built from the town to the coal mines, manufacturing plants of various kinds are projected during the year. Real estate advanced very much in price, and the future outlook of the town is very promising.

FINCASTLE.

Seat of Rich Agricultural Section Prosperous Along With Farmers

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
FINCASTLE, VA., Dec. 27.—While the county of Botetourt has been forging ahead in agricultural and mechanical pursuits during the last year, Fincastle has been keeping abreast in every way. A number of new buildings have been erected, while workmen are engaged on others to be completed early in the spring, and as many more are expected to be under way before the closing of summer. There is not a dwelling in the town unoccupied, and residences are in demand.

The merchants of the place are all doing a good business, in spite of the cut in prices for reaching Roanoke, and the volume of trade is increasing with the growth and progress of the town.

Fincastle has a factory in which all kinds of wood goods are made of the best quality of cashmere. This establishment has been recently purchased by Mr. Frank Brown, of Roanoke, and has been put in first



No matter where you've
wined and dined,
Just lay the heaviest
odds,
In Blue Grass only will
you find,
A whiskey for the gods.

**Old
Barbee
Whiskey**

Bottled in Bond
Hand-made by the famous
old process that brings the
natural flavor to perfection.
Ask for "Old Barbee." See that
Government stamp is over cork.
Jno. T. Barbee & Co., Louisville, Ky.



THE CABLE COMPANY
AND
MASON & HAMLIN CO.,
J. G. CONLEY, MANAGER.

Richmond, Va., January 1, 1905.

TO OUR FRIENDS AND THE PUBLIC:

Like the last flickering of a dying light, then a complete eclipse, the old year of 1904 has passed into a memory, and there has risen in its place a younger generation of time.

The passing of the old year recalls to us the many instances when the loyal support and patronage of our friends has been manifested to us. Indeed, we add with feelings of the utmost satisfaction that the patronage we have received from the people of this city and throughout the entire State during the year of 1904 has been gratifying in the extreme, and we consider it a special privilege to be able to extend our thanks and appreciation in this open letter to all of them.

We trust that the New Year will bring rich rewards to all, and that its successive seasons may be unusually prosperous to every one.

Again assuring you of our appreciation of your past patronage and friendship, we are,

Most cordially yours,

THE CABLE COMPANY,

(Wife)

class condition for turning out a superior quality of goods during the next year.

There are also two canning factories in the place which put up from eight to ten thousand cases of tomatoes and other fruit.

Mr. E. J. Slusser, who has just finished a magnificent residence, has also under way a large building, for a saw and planing mill, with the machinery already in place, and will soon be in full operation.

The town has recently built a large and commodious school house, well equipped with furniture, and have in regular attendance one hundred and seventy-five scholars.

GRAYSON COUNTY.

New Railroad Towns Give Great Impetus to Trade.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
INDEPENDENCE, VA., Dec. 31.—Grayson county has made greater strides within the year 1904, along the line of material development than during any preceding year of her history. In the western part of the county, the Virginia & Southern Railroad Company have completed their line of road from Sugar Grove in Smythe county to Fairmount. The new town of Fairmount is located in what is known as "Fox Bottoms," about twenty miles south of Marion. Fairmount has one wholesale house, the "Grayson Supply Company," a good hotel, a large hand saw mill with capacity to saw 100,000 feet of lumber per day. It is a beautiful place for a town and will doubtless add many industries and souls during the year 1905.

The town of Independence is headquarters for the Grayson Lumber Company of which Mr. J. A. Beeber, of Williamsport, Pa., is president and Mr. Jerome Moltz, of the same place, is general manager. This company owns 30,000 acres of the best timber land in the South and many years will be consumed in manufacturing it into lumber. Another wholesale house has recently been opened at "Fruit Dale." This is the oldest and largest of its kind in the county. The father of Senator John P. Greer, and is situated on the Grayson and Marion Turnpike, where the Virginia & Southern Railway crosses the turnpike. This is called the Grayson Lumber Company and is owned by the Senator and his brothers, R. Lee and Wiley Greer. In the eastern part of the county the Norfolk & Western Railroad Company has extended its line from Blair to Galois, a distance of about four miles. The road was completed to Galois late last spring. A large brick building to be used for office, will be erected at Independence in the spring on the Randolph lot between Central and E. L. Lundy & Son's store house. There is little doubt but that the Board of Supervisors will have a new courthouse built some time during the year, by the advance of the county. It is rumored that the Virginia & Southern will be extended during the year 1905 into Ashe county, N. C., to the famous "Ballon Mines" from Fairwood.

LEXINGTON INDUSTRIES.

New Buildings for Washington and Lee and the V. M. I.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
LEXINGTON, VA., Dec. 31.—The most important manufacturing enterprise at Lexington is the Rockbridge Lime & Stone Company, situated on the western border of the town. The company employs fifty men, the capacity of the kilns is 50 barrels of lime per day. The fertilizer plant for the manufacture of Patent Process Fertilizer Lime, has been run a little over a year, with results as satisfactory that the capacity will be doubled after January 1st. Five new houses have recently been built for employees and two more will be erected in the spring. The officers of the company are Mr. E. L. Embrey, of Buena Vista, president; Mr. Lawrence Embrey, of Lexington, secretary and treasurer, and Mr. H. R. Mills, of Lexington, travelling salesman. Moses Brothers at Lexington have in operation a large roller flouring mill and

woodworking factory, which turns out all kinds of builders' material. Two new buildings have been erected at Washington and Lee University, the Engineering Hall and the Lee's dormitory. The Engineering Hall is a handsome brick structure, three stories high, with trimmings of limestone. It was the gift of Mr. William H. Reid, of Chicago. The Lee's Dormitory is also built of brick with stone trimmings, and will accommodate about one hundred students.

At the Virginia Military Institute and known as the Administration Building. It is a handsome brick structure and cost about \$18,000.

LOUISA COUNTY.

Violet Raising Industry Brings Much Ready Cash Into County.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
LOUISA, Dec. 31.—This past year in Louisa has been one of general prosperity, and good prices have been obtained for tobacco and the corn crop the largest for years and selling well, and the farmers are happy.

The deposits in the Bank of Louisa have increased from \$134,000 last year to \$143,000 this year, a gain of \$9,000, in addition to which the Bank of Mineral has been established with a branch here.

Violet raising has grown to be a great industry, thousands of which are shipped each week, bringing in during the season large sums of ready cash to the growers. From here they are shipped to Cincinnati, Washington, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Richmond and Norfolk.

The mines at Mineral and the sulphur mines have been working full time all the year, paying out large sums in wages and a new mill has been under operation early in 1905.

Louisa has her new court house nearly completed and a fine monument erected to her Confederate dead which will be unveiled in the spring.

There have been opened four new business houses and six new dwelling have been built and early in the spring a northern capitalist will construct a handsome summer residence here.

There is a large saw mill and a fertilizer factory in the outskirts of the town run by local capital.

A good hotel, well kept, which is full nearly all the year, but crowded in the summer and with the boarding house the place is fast becoming a summer resort, a good local newspaper, the Enterprise, laundry and restaurant, so that a new town sees more poultry and stock raising and the outlook for 1905 is very bright.

STAUNTON.

Marked Prosperity and Enlargement of Its Manufactures.

STAUNTON, VA., Dec. 31.—Staunton's prosperity during the past year has been marked. In several instances the business of the larger industries have increased to double their capacity.

The White Star Mills with its capacity of five hundred barrels per day, is running day and night, and distributing as fast as the cars can be secured its flour to all parts of the country.

The Putnam Organ Factory, one of the largest manufacturing plants here has increased its forces the last year, and the demand on the company for its musical instruments is so great that they are far behind in their orders.

The Staunton Overall Company, which has some of the highest capital in this section behind it, is working increased forces, and in order to meet the demand will likely have to build an addition to their factory.

The Virginia-Carolina Chemical Company, which began active operation here about eighteen months or two years ago, has gradually increased its capacity. This company has done a splendid business since the establishment of its factory here.

The Staunton Handle Factory, one of Staunton's new enterprises, is doing a large business and will very shortly be a new addition to this factory, which will necessitate an increase in the present force.

On March first the Chesapeake & Ohio

Railroad Company will begin the erection of a new depot building, which it is understood will be equal to any on this division.

Staunton's opera house is now being remodelled when it is completed, about February 1st, will be one of the safest and best in the State.

RADFORD PROSPEROUS.

Its Idle Industries in Motion and the Prospect Is Bright.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
RADFORD, VA., Dec. 31.—Nineteen hundred and four has been a successful business year in Radford and the prospects for 1905 are bright with promise.

The Glamorgan Pipe and Foundry Company, the largest industrial plant in town, has run irregularly during the last two months, but will open up the first of the year with its full force of 280 employees.

Theresa J. on Furnace, as recently undergone extensive repairs, and is running at full blast, and the total output of the factory of the furnace is given as 175 tons per day, but Superintendent Mollberg broke the record one day this month by turning out 187 tons of iron.

The New River Sandstone Brick Company, with a capital of \$60,000 and a capacity of 20,000 bricks per day, has done a fine business this year. The bricks are made of lime and sand moulded under pressure and afterwards stamed twelve hours.

The Radford Portsmouth Veneer Company, which does a business of \$75,000 a year, has more orders than they can fill. Logs cannot be obtained fast enough.

The Radford Water Power Company, though handicapped by low water, has done a paying business this year.

The Radford Southern Railroad has completed its track to the mouth of Little River, and trains will soon be running over it to the big limestone quarries at the junction of New and Little rivers.

Both banks, the Radford Trust Company and the First National Bank, report a fine business year, and for the convenience of the merchants of Radford, a new bank, known as the Farmers' and Merchants' Bank, will be opened the third of January, with Mr. Edging Smith, of Staunton, president, and Mr. W. H. Calway, cashier.

The Norfolk and Western Railway Company has converted the East Radford station into a large and handsome building, enlarged the freight office, and built an express office.

Radford has two first-class hotels—the

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY RATES VIA ATLANTIC COAST LINE.

This line will sell tickets between all points south of Potomac River and eastward to Miami Beach, Fla., at rate of one and one-third first-class fares for the round trip. Minimum rate, fifty cents. Tickets on sale to the general public December 23d, 24th, 25th, 31st, 1904, and 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 1905.

Tickets will be limited to continuous passage in each direction.

For full information, apply to agents of the company, or

C. S. CAMPBELL,
Division Passenger Agent,
No. 333 East Main Street, Richmond, Va.

The Virginia State Insurance Company has assets exceeding \$725,000, and surplus to policy holders of \$250,000. The Virginia State is owned by home people, managed by home people, employs home people, spends its money with home people, and should be patronized by home people.—A. W. Garber, Solicitor.

"Charity begins at home." So, also, should the patronage of home people be given home institutions. The Virginia State should not be forgotten in this connection.—Charles E. Wolfe, Agent.

West End Hotel and Hotel Sheraton and

Hotel had a fine patronage. The mercantile houses have been prosperous, and a number have built larger and more commodious buildings. Five substantial brick business blocks have been built in East Radford, and a number of residences in both the East and West ends. Still housed in in the town, and there is not a vacant house in town.

WAVERLY REVIVED.

Spirit of Enterprise Demonstrated in Rebuilding the Town.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
WAVERLY, VA., Dec. 31.—On May 17, 1904, Waverly was visited by the most disastrous fire in its history, between forty and fifty thousand dollars worth of property in the business section of this town being entirely destroyed. The editor of the Times-Dispatch in its issue of May 18th expressed sympathy for our people and predicted that the business men of Waverly would not be demoralized by the destruction, but would rebuild the same to good account and rebuild the burnt district in more attractive and substantial buildings than those burned.

And well did the Times-Dispatch prophesy. Notwithstanding this fire, the year 1904 has been the most prosperous in the history of Waverly. The following are some of the new buildings which have been erected during the year:

The P. Fleetwood Block, on Main Street, consisting of two large two-story, brick stores, and two-story brick warehouses. These stores are said to be as deep as any in the city of Newport News, and the block cost over \$10,000.

Dr. John F. May's new two-story brick building, on Main Street, occupied as drug store, post-office, telephone exchange, and private offices. This building cost about \$4,000.

J. H. Panney's handsome new two-story brick store building, with plate glass front, erected on the corner of Main Street and Railroad Avenue, at a cost of over \$4,000.

The brick fire-proof banking house of the Bank of Waverly, on the corner of Main Street and Fleetwood Avenue.

G. A. Harrison's large two-story frame store and warehouse on West Main Street.

Three handsome residences on South Copphank Avenue, erected by Messrs. C. S. Parsons, O. B. Parsons, and J. B. Wilcox.

W. Greenauer's large two-story brick store, on Main Street.

Waverly can boast of as complete and up-to-date a telephone system as any city in Virginia. The Southern Bell Telephone Company has recently purchased the Waverly Telephone Company's plant and installed a new exchange of five phones. Each phone is a long distance phone, and the service is, practically speaking, perfect.

A portion of the sidewalks on Main Street has been laid in granite.

J. E. Wilcox has recently established an electric light plant in Waverly, and our town is now lighted by electricity.

The demand for the Waverly Milling Company's corn meal is so great that the mills are frequently operated both day and night.

During the present year the deposits in the Bank of Waverly have increased sixty per cent, and the total footings are now \$238,000, as against \$163,000 one year ago.

The merchants of Waverly report that business during the year 1904 has been better than for several years past. The Waverly Peanut Company, notwithstanding the fire which destroyed its factory in November, 1903, and cost them the month of January this year, reports that the volume of business done by them in 1904 surpasses that of any other year.

In 1904 the Methodist Episcopal congregation in Waverly will erect a handsome new church building on Copphank Avenue.

It is stated that a wealthy lumber company will erect the most modern erect a large saw mill and box factory in our town.

The prospects for business success and prosperity in Waverly during the coming year are all that the most ambitious could ask for.

FARMVILLE, VA.

No Failures and Business Larger Than Ever Before.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
FARMVILLE, VA., Dec. 31.—The year just past has been one of the most prosperous that Farmville has ever known.

The town has had no failures among its business concerns, and the merchants have been satisfied with the year's work.

Each of the twelve months of the year has been a record for the number of substantial and commodious business houses have been erected, and found ready occupants immediately upon completion.

Complete the additional number of stores, the older merchants declare that their sales during the week preceding Christmas were greater than any other week before. This may be due in part to the largely increased tobacco sales this year over anything known in the recent past.

The total sales of tobacco from the opening of the season in November to December 22d, this year, amounted to \$255,666 pounds as against \$245,000 pounds the corresponding period of last year, an increase of nearly one million pounds in the two months.

It is interesting to note that Farmville there have been marked improvements and some six or eight handsome residences have been added with every contractor or hardware dealer accepted bids on them, and busy the greater part of the coming year.

Messrs. J. M. Venable & Co. have just completed a very large building to be used as a cannery establishment. The most approved machinery will be installed in the early spring, and the business of putting up fruit, vegetables and tomatoes will be commenced in their respective seasons.

The new handle factory, which is second to none in the United States, has always orders in advance for every handle it makes. Each year the business is made the remotest parts of the country. Its business during 1904 was unprecedentedly large.

It is expected that the new addition to the State Fomble Normal School buildings will be completed in February. The improvements of this institution during the year have been done at a cost of more than \$80,000.

The citizens recently voted almost unanimously to issue \$10,000 of the town's bonds for the purpose of increasing the capacity of the electric light plant, and work have been started on the completion of the additional machinery which will be installed.

The streets of the town have been improved from time to time until now the Main Street sidewalks are almost entirely of the best granite, and the town has been pronounced that in the early spring work of the same character will be begun on the side streets.

EMPORIA.

The Gateway of Southside Virginia Making Great Strides.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
EMPORIA, VA., Dec. 31.—The town of Emporia, the old Emporia or York, which a decade ago was a struggling village, neatly ensconced among the hills of the Meherrin, is to-day a full blown town.

Emporia is the gateway to Southside Virginia. The industrial institutions of the town are the pride of the people. With four banks, less than eight years old, the past year shows an increase of fifty per cent in the general run of business and deposits.

The Ash Grove Mill will double its capacity this year. The Greenville Water Power Company will begin the erection of an immense cement dam across the Meherrin river soon and supply electric motive force for running street cars, dynamo of various industries.

The Home Investment Company has recently been capitalized at \$100,000, and will develop large tracts of unimproved city and nearby properties.

A peanut factory is in sight, likewise a

ACADEMY

To-morrow, Matinee and Night, the Great International Success, A Chinese Honeymoon
New York Casino Company.
Prices: Matinee—\$1, 75c, 50c, 25c; Night—\$1.50, \$1, 75c, 50c, 25c.

Tuesday Night Only, Daniel Hart's Great Play, AT OLD POINT COMFORT
A story of Virginia.
Prices: \$1, 75c, 50c, 25c.

WEDNESDAY—Matinee and Night.

CHARLES FROMMAN and GEORGE EDWARDS CHARLES FROMMAN and GEORGE EDWARDS
PRESENT THE COLOSSAL TRIUMPH OF THE
THE PAST TWO YEARS IN LONDON AND NEW YORK
(10 MONTHS' RUN AT HEROLD SQ. THEATRE, N. Y.)

The Huge Farce Comedy, with Music! The Huge Farce Comedy, with Music!

THE GREATEST MUSICAL COMEDY SUCCESS EVER KNOWN!
80 IN CAST AND CHORUS
15 SONG HITS!
5,000 LAUGHS!
"SUFFICIENCY!"

TEPISCORON IN ABANDON!
GORGEOUS STAGE GOWNS
THE METROPOLITAN 400 ARE NOW WEARING!

LAVISH APPOINTMENTS
AND A PRODIGALITY OF DISPLAY!

Book by Owen Hall Music by Ivan Caryll

THE GIRL OF WIT AND MELODY GALORE! THE GIRL OF WIT AND MELODY GALORE!

A RIOT OF FUN AND LAUGHTER!
A RIOT OF FUN AND LAUGHTER!
Comedy that is Funny! Girls that are Pretty!
Music that is Catchy! Costumes that are Town Talk!
A GREAT BIG GORGEOUS PRODUCTION! A GREAT BIG GORGEOUS PRODUCTION!

Presented in All its Original Splendor!
Every Line a Laugh! Joy in Dances! Every Line a Laugh! Joy in Dances!
Every Song a Whistler! Joy in Music! Every Song a Whistler! Joy in Music!
Every Girl a Dream! Joy in Jokes! Every Girl a Dream! Joy in Jokes!
Every Down a Marvel! Joy All Through! Every Down a Marvel! Joy All Through!

CROWDED HOUSES EVERYWHERE! CROWDED HOUSES EVERYWHERE!
Owing to the Multiplicity and Immensity of the Features CURTAIN RISES 8 PROMPTLY

Prices: Matinee—25c, 50c, 75c, \$1.
Night—25c, 50c, 75c, \$1, \$1.50.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday—Special Saturday Matinee.

Grand Opera Festival

SALE OF SEATS AND BOXES MONDAY, JANUARY 2, AT 9 A. M.
HENRY W. SAVAGE BEGS THE HONOR OF ANNOUNCING THE FIRST VISIT TO RICHMOND OF HIS

English Grand Opera Company and Orchestra

Nearly 150 people, constituting the largest and best English-voiced organization on the stage, in four of the World's Greatest Masterpieces. THIS BRILLIANT REPERTORY.

Thursday Evg., Jan. 5, Only American Production in English. WAGNER'S Lohengrin

Friday Evg., Jan. 6, Only American Production in English. BIZET'S Carmen

Saturday Matinee at 2:15, VERDI'S Il Trovatore

Saturday Evg., Jan. 7, Only American Production in English. WAGNER'S Tannhauser

Each opera is promised a special scenic production and will be sung by the superb corps of principals and chorus that have made this company famous in the past nine years.

Night Prices: Box Seats \$1.50 to \$2.50 Lower Floor.....\$2.00
Balcony.....\$1 to \$1.50 Gallery.....50c to 75c
SAT. MATINEE: Box Seats, \$1 to \$2; Lower Floor, two rows at \$2, remainder at \$1.50; Balcony, \$1; Gallery, 50c.
Mail orders filled in order of receipt.

large saw mill, and several talk of the probability of a cotton seed oil mill.

Judge Samuel Goodwyn states he and his associates will give a site for a furniture factory, a veneering factory, a cotton factory, and a chair factory. The raw material is right at the door of the town and is inexhaustible.

The business men, especially the merchants, are feeling good over the records of their business the past year. All say the outlook is fine.

Both Bedford and Emporia people are up-to-date and progressive citizens, and believe that Emporia is destined to reach